Universal Commonwealth Manifesto

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Constitution of The Universal Commonwealth

By Benjamin Baker

02/20/2026

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Universal Commonwealth Manifesto

Preamble

We present this manifesto as the living voice of the Ascension Covenant—a compact between the people of Earth and the institutions they create to secure a universal floor and an unfettered ceiling. This document is not a dry legal commentary; it is an argument, a moral case, and a practical blueprint. It explains why the Covenant matters, how its principles resolve the central tensions of modern governance, and what must be done to translate ideals into durable institutions. Read as a whole, the manifesto is both a defense of radical liberty and a plan for collective stewardship: it insists that no person should be forced to survive by the market, and no person should be prevented from rising by the state.

The Covenant begins from two convictions. First, that human dignity requires a guaranteed baseline—housing, nutrition, and healthcare—so that every life can be lived with the minimum conditions for flourishing. Second, that human flourishing requires freedom—the right to innovate, to own, to trade, and to aspire without arbitrary ceilings. These convictions are not contradictory; they are complementary. The Covenant binds them together through institutional design: a transparent Stewardship, a meritocratic but accountable Guild system, a Sentinel force constrained by law, and a public revenue model that treats the Earth as a shared inheritance rather than private booty.

This manifesto elaborates the Covenant's moral logic, anticipates the practical challenges it will face, and prescribes the safeguards necessary to keep the system resilient. It is written for citizens, for organizers, for Guilds, and for the stewards who will be entrusted with the Covenant's maintenance. It is an invitation to build a polity that refuses both the cruelty of scarcity and the arrogance of unaccountable power.

Foundational Principles

1. The Primacy of Tangible Harm.

At the heart of the Covenant is a single criminal category: Tangible Harm. This principle restores clarity to the law by focusing enforcement on actions that produce direct, material injury—physical violence, theft, and breach of contract. The moral logic is simple: the state's coercive power is justified only to prevent or repair tangible injury. Thought, belief, and private speech are inviolable. This is not an abdication of responsibility; it is a deliberate narrowing of the state's moral jurisdiction to protect liberty and prevent the expansion of punitive power into the inner life of citizens.

2. The Birthright of the Floor.

The Covenant declares survival a right, not a commodity. Sanctuary Modules, The Common Table, and Bio-Stewardship are not welfare programs; they are the institutional expression of a social compact that recognizes the shared conditions of human dignity. When survival is demonetized, citizens are freed from the coercive calculus that forces people to accept degrading labor or political subservience to survive. The Floor is both a moral baseline and a practical stabilizer: it reduces desperation, increases bargaining power, and creates the conditions for genuine freedom.

3. The Freedom of the Ceiling.

The Covenant protects the right to ascend. Private property, trade, and the fruits of creativity are sacrosanct so long as the Prime Law is respected. The Ceiling is not a license to dominate; it is a promise that ambition will not be stifled by the state. This dual commitment—unconditional survival plus unbounded aspiration—creates a political economy where risk-taking and innovation are rewarded without making survival contingent on success.

4. Stewardship over Sovereignty.

Government is framed as a Maintenance Duty rather than a power center. This linguistic shift matters: it reorients public service toward care, repair, and facilitation. The High Council of Arbiters, the Central Ledger, and the Sentinel Corps are instruments of stewardship. They exist to maintain the Floor, protect the Commons, and ensure the fair operation of the Ceiling. Power is delegated, not concentrated; it is subject to rotation, audit, and public scrutiny.

5. Ecological Reciprocity.

The Earth is not a resource to be exhausted but a living partner. The Covenant embeds ecological stewardship into the revenue model: leases for resource use are conditional on restoration, and ecocide is a violation of the Prime Law. This principle aligns incentives: those who profit from extraction must also pay for regeneration. The Commons is thus protected not only by moral injunctions but by contractual and fiscal mechanisms.

6. Cognitive Sovereignty.

The final frontier of liberty is the mind. The Covenant enshrines Neural Ownership and the right to silence. Technologies that bypass consent—neural hijacking, subliminal manipulation, exploitative behavioral design—are treated as assaults on personhood. This principle anticipates the coming era of persuasive systems and neural interfaces and insists that consent, transparency, and certification must govern their use.

7. Renewal and Ephemerality.

To prevent the slow calcification of liberty, laws are ephemeral by design. The Sunset Clause forces periodic re-justification of restrictions and privileges. This institutionalized impermanence combats capture, encourages debate, and keeps the polity responsive to changing conditions.

These principles are not abstract ideals; they are design constraints. They shape the Covenant's institutions and the procedural rules that make the system resilient to corruption, capture, and crisis.

Institutional Design Explained

The Prime Law and Its Operationalization

The Prime Law's clarity is its strength: criminal law is limited to tangible harms. But clarity alone is insufficient. Operationalizing the Prime Law requires precise definitions, forensic capacity, and a legal architecture that can adjudicate complex, large-scale harms. The Covenant therefore extends the Prime Law to include demonstrable, large-scale material harms—cyberattacks that disable infrastructure, systemic financial manipulations that destroy livelihoods, and coordinated campaigns that produce physical damage. These extensions are tightly circumscribed: they require evidence, judicial oversight, and time-limited authorizations. The goal is to prevent harm without opening the door to thought policing or political repression.

The Common Floor as Public Infrastructure

The Floor is administered through dedicated agencies that are institutionally separated from the Guilds and from resource leasing authorities. This separation prevents conflicts of interest and capture. The Stabilization Fund, seeded by lease surpluses, smooths revenue volatility and protects the Floor during downturns. The Floor's provisioning is standardized: Sanctuary Modules meet minimum quality standards; The Common Table provides nutrient-dense sustenance calibrated to public health metrics; Bio-Stewardship ensures access to preventive and restorative healthcare. Independent auditors verify compliance and publish performance metrics on the Central Ledger.

The Sovereign Ceiling and Anti-Capture Mechanisms

The Ceiling is protected by anti-capture rules: rotating leadership, conflict-of-interest disclosures, and shorter sunset terms for economic privileges. The Covenant recognizes that meritocracy can calcify into oligarchy if left unchecked. Therefore, Ambition-Tier advantages are periodically reviewed, and access to Mastery Ranks requires multi-modal assessment—practical demonstration, peer review, and community impact. Retraining programs and open challenge pathways ensure mobility and prevent hereditary privilege.

The Guild System as a Pluralistic Engine of Mastery

Guilds are the primary educational authority, but the Covenant insists on pluralism. Guilds accredit independent institutions that meet transparent standards. Accreditation decisions are subject to external review and public reporting. A rotating Ethics Board

audits Guild practices and investigates gatekeeping. Mastery is not a credential alone; it is a public demonstration of competence and ethical stewardship. The Guild of Restoration is elevated to equal status with other Guilds, signaling that care work is as socially valuable as sentinel or artificer work.

The Sentinel Corps and the Non-Interference Protocol

The Sentinels are the Commonwealth's defensive arm, constrained by law and civilian oversight. They defend against external threats and mass tangible harm but are forbidden from policing private lives or internal Sanctuary politics except where imminent mass harm is threatened. A civilian Sentinel Oversight Board, including Assembly representatives, reviews actions and ensures compliance. Sentinels are also authorized to act against coordinated non-physical threats—cyber operations, infrastructure sabotage—that foreseeably produce material damage, subject to judicial oversight.

The Central Ledger and the Inverted Panopticon

Transparency is enforced through the Central Ledger, a public, algorithmic record of resource distribution and official transactions. High officials waive financial and professional privacy for the duration of their terms, but disclosure is granular and balanced with security protections. The Ledger is governed by strict cybersecurity standards, redaction procedures for genuinely sensitive information, and penalties for misuse. The Inverted Panopticon is not a tool of humiliation; it is a mechanism to make power costly and visible, thereby deterring corruption.

The Assembly of the Commons as a Democratic Check

The Assembly is selected by sortition and serves as a temporary civic duty. It holds veto power over legislative acts, Guild mandates, and executive orders, but its veto is qualified: technical or emergency measures require supermajorities or expedited expert review to sustain a veto. Assembly members receive nonpartisan briefings and expert analyses to make informed decisions. The Assembly's primary charge is to protect the unranked and apprentices from elite overreach.

The Sovereign Trust and Fiscal Architecture

The Commons—land, subsoil minerals, spectrum, and orbits—are declared the Sovereign Trust. Use rights may be leased but not sold permanently. Lease revenues fund governance, the Stabilization Fund, and the Citizen Dividend. Lease contracts

include restoration obligations and extraction caps. The fiscal architecture is designed to align private incentives with ecological stewardship and to prevent the state from resorting to labor taxation.

Restorative Justice and the Right to Repair

Justice is restorative, not punitive. For property and contract harms, restitution is prioritized; triple repayment is available only after proportionality review and capacity assessment. Violent breaches are met with compulsory rehabilitation under the Guild of Restoration; exile is a last resort and requires due process and protections against statelessness. Sentences must be directed toward repayment or reform and are subject to humane standards and oversight.

Cognitive Sovereignty and Regulatory Capacity

The Covenant creates a regulatory body to define and certify manipulative technologies. Consent standards govern neural interfaces and persuasive systems. Violations are treated as severe offenses. The state funds public research into influence techniques and maintains forensic capacity to investigate abuses. Cognitive sovereignty is enforced through a combination of legal prohibition, certification regimes, and public transparency.

Rights and Duties of Citizens

Unconditional Rights

Every citizen is guaranteed the Floor: housing, sustenance, and healthcare. These rights are unconditional and not contingent on labor, political loyalty, or social status. The Covenant recognizes that unconditional rights are the precondition for meaningful freedom. When survival is secure, citizens can exercise their talents, take risks, and participate in civic life without coercion.

Economic Rights

Citizens retain the right to private property, trade, and the fruits of innovation. The Covenant abolishes taxation on labor and creative output, protecting the sanctity of human effort. This protection is balanced by the Leasehold model: corporations and Guilds pay for the use of natural resources, and surplus revenue is returned to citizens as a dividend. Economic rights are thus embedded in a framework that recognizes both individual initiative and collective inheritance.

Civic Duties

Citizens owe duties to the Covenant: to respect the Prime Law, to participate when called upon (e.g., Assembly service by sortition), and to contribute to ecological stewardship. Civic duties are not burdensome impositions but reciprocal obligations that sustain the Floor and the Commons. The Covenant's design minimizes coercion while maximizing shared responsibility.

The Right of Departure

Citizens may renounce their citizenship and leave the Sanctuary, surrendering Floor benefits. Those who live in the Wilds are Sovereigns but remain bound by the Prime Law and ecological covenants. The Right of Departure is a radical affirmation of voluntary association: the Commonwealth is a contract, not a cage. Re-entry procedures and emergency protections ensure that renunciation does not become a permanent sentence of destitution.

Protections for Vulnerable Populations

The Guild of Restoration and the Bio-Stewards ensure that misfortune does not become permanent servitude. The Covenant guarantees access to restorative resources and

rehabilitation. It also provides for retraining and mobility guarantees so that those displaced by technological change or economic disruption can re-enter the Ambition Tier.

Political Equality and Meritocratic Mobility

The Covenant balances political equality with meritocratic mobility. Sortition for the Assembly ensures broad civic participation, while Guild-based mastery provides pathways for excellence. The Sovereign Challenge allows citizens to contest incumbents, but thresholds and cooling periods prevent destabilizing volatility. The system is designed to reward competence while protecting against the ossification of privilege.

Implementation Roadmap

Phase One Establishment

1. Foundational Institutions. Create the Auditor-General, Stabilization Fund Board, Cyber-Forensics Court, and Guild Ethics Board within the first year. These institutions provide the scaffolding for transparency, fiscal resilience, and technological oversight.

2. Central Ledger Deployment. Build the Central Ledger with robust cybersecurity, public access interfaces, and redaction protocols. Pilot the Ledger in a limited jurisdiction to test governance workflows and privacy safeguards.

3. Sanctuary Rollout. Begin phased construction of Sanctuary Modules and deployment of The Common Table and Bio-Stewardship services in prioritized regions, ensuring quality standards and independent audits.

Phase Two Legal and Regulatory Frameworks

1. Prime Law Codification. Draft precise statutory language for the Prime Law and its material-harm extension, including evidentiary standards and judicial review mechanisms.

2. Leasehold Contracts. Standardize lease contracts with restoration obligations, extraction caps, and renewal terms. Establish the Stabilization Fund's capitalization rules and governance.

3. Guild Accreditation. Implement accreditation standards and external review processes for Guilds and independent educational institutions.

Phase Three Civic Integration

1. Assembly Activation. Launch sortition mechanisms, civic education programs, and nonpartisan briefing services for Assembly members.

2. Sentinel Oversight. Constitute the Sentinel Oversight Board and define operational protocols for intervention in cyber and infrastructural threats.

3. Restorative Systems. Operationalize the Guild of Restoration's rehabilitation programs, restorative labor standards, and proportionality review processes.

Phase Four Resilience and Review

1. Stabilization and Dividend Mechanisms. Test the Stabilization Fund's disbursement

rules and the Citizen Dividend algorithm under simulated downturns.

2. Sunset and Renewal Processes. Establish procedural calendars for law expiration and renewal debates, including public consultation mechanisms.

3. Decadal Constitutional Review. Convene the mixed commission every ten years to assess capture risks, fiscal health, and technological threats, and to recommend amendments.

Operational Principles for Implementation

- *Transparency by Default.* All governance actions are recorded on the Central Ledger unless redaction is justified by narrowly defined security concerns.

- *Rotation and Anti-Capture.* Leadership positions in Guilds and lease administration rotate on fixed schedules; conflict-of-interest disclosures are mandatory and enforced.

- *Evidence-Based Policy.* Decisions about expansion of the Prime Law, emergency levies, or exile require empirical justification and judicial oversight.

- *Public Participation.* The Assembly and public consultations are integrated into major policy decisions, especially those affecting the Floor or ecological commons.

Call to Action

This manifesto is a blueprint, but blueprints require builders. The Covenant will not arise from abstract assent; it will be forged by civic movements, by Guilds that commit to ethical mastery, by stewards who accept maintenance as a duty, and by citizens who insist that survival and aspiration are not mutually exclusive. The work ahead is both institutional and cultural.

Organize Locally. Begin by forming local councils to pilot Sanctuary Modules, community food systems, and restorative clinics. Use these pilots to refine standards and to demonstrate feasibility.

Build Guild Networks. Encourage existing educational institutions to seek Guild accreditation and to participate in pluralistic assessment regimes. Elevate care work by creating pathways into the Guild of Restoration.

Demand Transparency. Advocate for public ledgers and independent auditors in existing institutions. Transparency is the first line of defense against capture.

Protect Cognitive Sovereignty. Support research into influence techniques and demand certification regimes for persuasive technologies. Consent must be meaningful, not a checkbox.

Prepare for Transition. Work with policymakers to design lease contracts, stabilization fund rules, and sunset procedures. The fiscal architecture must be robust before the Floor is fully expanded.

Join the Assembly. When sortition calls, answer. Civic duty is the glue that binds the Covenant. The Assembly's power to veto is meaningful only if citizens are willing to serve.

Hold Stewards Accountable. Treat public office as a maintenance duty. Insist on rotation, audits, and public disclosure. Power must be costly and visible.

Protect the Wilds. Negotiate inter-societal compacts with those who choose to live outside the Sanctuaries. Ecological stewardship is a shared responsibility that transcends political boundaries.

Conclusion

The Ascension Covenant is an audacious attempt to reconcile two truths that modern politics often treats as opposites: that survival is a right and that ambition is a virtue. It rejects the false choice between a welfare state that crushes initiative and a market order that tolerates destitution. Instead, it proposes a polity where the Floor is guaranteed and the Ceiling is boundless, where the Earth is treated as a shared inheritance, and where the mind is inviolable.

This manifesto has laid out the moral case, the institutional design, the rights and duties of citizens, and a practical roadmap for implementation. It has anticipated the principal failure modes—fiscal fragility, capture, enforcement gaps—and embedded safeguards: a Stabilization Fund, anti-capture rules, a narrow but enforceable Prime Law, and a transparent Central Ledger.

Now the Covenant must be translated into practice. That translation will require patience, experimentation, and the steady work of institutions that are designed to be renewed. The Covenant is not a final form; it is a living architecture meant to be tested, debated, and improved. Its success will be measured not by the perfection of its first draft but by the resilience of its institutions and the dignity of the lives it secures.

If you accept this vision, begin where you are. Build the first Sanctuary, convene the first Guild Ethics Board, pilot the Central Ledger, and answer the call when sortition summons you. The Ascension Covenant asks only that we treat one another as co-inheritors of a fragile planet and co-authors of a shared future. It asks that we make survival unconditional and ambition unbounded. It asks that we steward the Earth and protect the mind. If we do this, we will have created a polity worthy of the name Commonwealth.

Constitution of the Universal Commonwealth

Preamble

We, the People of Earth, in order to transcend the cycles of scarcity, violence, and stagnation, do hereby establish this Ascension Covenant. We bind ourselves to the protection of the Earth and the elevation of the Individual, ensuring that while the State provides the Floor for our survival, the spirit provides the Ceiling for our dreams. We ordain institutions that are transparent, renewable, and resilient to capture, and we commit to procedures that preserve liberty while enabling collective action.

Article I The Prime Law The Law of Tangible Harm

Section 1 Core Rule. The Commonwealth recognizes only one criminal category: Tangible Harm. No law shall be passed that restricts an action unless that action results in direct physical injury to another, the theft of their property, or the breach of a signed contract.

Section 2 Material Harm Extension. For public safety and protection of shared infrastructure, the Prime Law also covers demonstrable, large-scale harms that produce material damage to persons, property, essential infrastructure, or the ecological commons, including coordinated cyber operations and systemic economic manipulations that foreseeably cause such damage.

Section 3 Narrow Construction. Expansion of the Prime Law to non-physical harms requires a supermajority of the High Council and a nonbinding review by the Assembly; definitions must be precise, evidence-based, and time-limited.

Article II The Common Floor

Section 1 Birthright Provisions. Every citizen is entitled to high-quality housing Sanctuary Modules, nutrient-dense sustenance The Common Table, and life-extending healthcare Bio-Stewardship. Access is unconditional and not contingent on labor, political loyalty, or social status.

Section 2 Administration and Separation. Agencies administering the Floor shall be institutionally separated from those certifying Ascension; independent auditors shall review distribution annually.

Section 3 Fiscal Backstops. The Commonwealth shall maintain a Stabilization Fund seeded by resource-lease surpluses to smooth revenue volatility. In declared fiscal emergencies, limited, temporary, and narrowly defined revenue measures may be enacted under strict oversight and with automatic sunset clauses.

Article III The Sovereign Ceiling

Section 1 Right to Ascend. Citizens retain the right to hold private property, trade in Units or private currencies, and keep the fruits of creative innovation, so long as the Prime Law is not violated.

Section 2 Anti-Capture and Mobility. Economic privileges and Ambition-Tier advantages are subject to periodic review, shorter sunset terms than ordinary law, and anti-capture rules including rotating leadership, conflict-of-interest disclosures, and public procurement transparency.

Section 3 Equal Opportunity Guarantees. The State shall fund retraining, open challenge pathways, and guaranteed access to foundational education so that Ascension remains merit-based and not hereditary.

Article IV The Mandate of the Guilds

Section 1 Education as Engine. Education is the engine of the Covenant; the Guild

System is the primary educational authority.

Section 2 Pluralism and Accreditation. The Guilds shall accredit independent institutions and programs that meet transparent standards. Accreditation decisions are subject to periodic external review and public reporting.

Section 3 Assessment and Mobility. Mastery Ranks and Ambition-Tier access require multi-modal assessment including practical demonstration, peer review, and community impact. Anti-nepotism rules and guaranteed retraining ensure mobility for those who fail or are displaced.

Section 4 Ethical Oversight. A rotating Ethics Board, drawn from multiple disciplines and the Assembly, shall audit Guild practices and investigate corruption or gatekeeping.

Article V The Stewardship Government

Section 1 Maintenance Duty. Government is a Maintenance Duty, not a power center. The High Council of Arbiters oversees balance between Floor and Ceiling.

Section 2 Institutional Checks. Agencies are separated by function; no single office may control both resource leasing and Guild certification. Independent auditors and an ombudsperson shall report publicly.

Section 3 Emergency Powers. Emergency powers are narrowly defined, time-limited, and require Assembly notification and judicial review.

Article VI The Non-Interference Protocol

Section 1 Sentinel Role. The Sentinel Corps defends the Earth and Sanctuaries from external threats and mass tangible harm. Sentinels are forbidden from interfering in internal Sanctuary politics or private lives except where intervention is necessary to

prevent imminent mass tangible harm or to enforce the Prime Law.

Section 2 Cyber and Infrastructural Threats. Sentinels are authorized to act against coordinated non-physical threats that foreseeably produce material damage, subject to judicial oversight and transparent reporting.

Section 3 Civilian Oversight. A civilian Sentinel Oversight Board, including Assembly representatives, reviews Sentinel actions and ensures compliance with the Non-Interference Protocol.

Article VII The Ecological Stewardship

Section 1 Living Earth Principle. The Earth The Wilds is a living entity. The Bio-Stewards manage Resource Equilibrium. Extraction must be balanced with restoration. Ecocide is a violation of the Prime Law.

Section 2 Lease Conditions. All resource leases include legally binding restoration obligations, extraction caps, and independent ecological audits. Lease terms are renewable, not perpetual.

Section 3 Commons Guardianship. The Bio-Stewards maintain a public register of ecological health metrics; lease revenues are partially dedicated to restoration and the Stabilization Fund.

Article VIII The Sanctity of Labor Economic Immunity

Section 1 Prohibition of Income Tax. The State shall not levy a tax upon the labor, time, or creative output of a human being. A citizen's earnings are inviolable.

Section 2 Revenue Sources and Limits. State revenue derives primarily from the Lease of Natural Resources and Central Ledger usage fees. To ensure fiscal resilience, the

Commonwealth may enact narrowly defined, non-labor emergency levies such as progressive consumption or environmental levies only under strict conditions and with automatic sunset and Assembly review.

Section 3 Anti-Exploitation Safeguards. Lease terms must not incentivize ecological harm; caps on extraction and mandatory restoration are enforced by the Bio-Stewards.

Article IX The Right of Departure Voluntary Citizenship

Section 1 Right of Exit. Any citizen may renounce citizenship, surrender Floor benefits, and leave the Sanctuary. Exit is respected without penalty.

Section 2 Wilds Compact. Those living in the Wilds are Sovereigns but bound by the Prime Law and ecological covenants; cross-boundary externalities are governed by inter-societal compacts to prevent harm to Sanctuaries.

Section 3 Re-entry Provisions. Citizens who renounce may reapply for Sanctuary protections under standardized procedures; emergency re-entry is available for imminent life-threatening situations.

Article X The Sovereign Challenge

Section 1 Right to Challenge. Any citizen may challenge an incumbent Master or official through a Test of Competence. A successful challenge transfers authority; a failed challenge results in loss of Ambition-Tier status.

Section 2 Thresholds and Cooling. Challenges require a petition meeting evidentiary thresholds and a minimum support level; a cooling period applies between successive challenges to the same office.

Section 3 Adjudication. An independent tribunal adjudicates the legitimacy of

challenges and ensures procedural fairness. Consequences for frivolous or malicious challenges include proportionate sanctions.

Article XI The Assembly of the Commons The Check on Power

Section 1 Selection by Lot. The Assembly is composed by Sortition from the general populace; service is temporary civic duty.

Section 2 Power of Denial with Qualifications. The Assembly may veto legislative acts, Guild mandates, or executive orders by majority vote. For technical, emergency, or time-sensitive measures, a supermajority or expedited expert review is required to sustain a veto.

Section 3 Civic Support. Assembly members receive nonpartisan briefings, expert analyses, and administrative support to make informed decisions.

Section 4 Shield of the Unranked. The Assembly protects the liberties of the unranked and apprentices and may commission audits into Guild practices.

Article XII The Sovereign Trust The Public Revenue

Section 1 Commons Declaration. Land, subsoil minerals, spectrum, and orbits are the Sovereign Trust. They cannot be sold permanently; use rights may be leased.

Section 2 Leasehold and Use Fees. Lease revenues fund the Sentinel Corps, Courts, Infrastructure, and the Stabilization Fund. Lease contracts include restoration obligations and caps.

Section 3 Citizen Dividend. Surplus revenue beyond governance costs is returned equally to citizens as a dividend. The Stabilization Fund is prioritized before dividends during downturns.

Article XIII The Mandate of Restoration The Safety of the Climb

Section 1 Guild of Restoration. The Guild of Restoration cares for the injured, sick, and infirm; it is equal in status to other Guilds.

Section 2 Right to Repair. Citizens have the right to Restoration—access to resources necessary to regain physical and mental vitality.

Section 3 Restorative Justice Oversight. The Guild of Restoration oversees rehabilitation programs and ensures humane conditions, time limits, and independent review of restorative labor.

Article XIV The Expiration of Restraint The Sunset Clause

Section 1 Duration of Law. No statute, regulation, or restriction passed by the High Council shall remain valid for more than twenty years. Economic privileges and lease-based advantages shall have shorter default durations.

Section 2 Renewal Requirement. Upon expiration, laws are repealed unless explicitly re-debated and re-ratified.

Section 3 Default of Liberty. If the government fails to act, the restriction vanishes.

Article XV The Inverted Panopticon Transparency of Leadership

Section 1 Waiver of Privacy with Limits. High officials waive financial and professional privacy for the duration of their term, subject to granular disclosure rules that protect personal security and genuinely sensitive information.

Section 2 Public Ledger Protections. The Central Ledger records professional communications, assets, and transactions of high officials; access is public but governed by strict cybersecurity, redaction procedures, and penalties for misuse.

Section 3 Security and Recruitment Balance. Transparency requirements are balanced with measures to protect personal safety and to avoid chilling public service.

Article XVI The Law of Restitution Restorative Justice

Section 1 Repayment of Debt. For crimes against property or contract, offenders shall be directed toward restitution. Triple repayment is an option only after proportionality review and capacity assessment; alternatives include mediation, community service, or structured repayment plans.

Section 2 Violent Breach. Perpetrators of violence are subject to compulsory rehabilitation under the Guild of Restoration; in cases of irreparable danger, Exile is a last resort and requires due process and protections against statelessness.

Section 3 No Idle Imprisonment. Sentences must be directed toward repayment or reform and are subject to humane standards and oversight.

Article XVII Cognitive Sovereignty The Sanctity of the Mind

Section 1 Neural Ownership. Citizens are sole proprietors of their thoughts, memories, and neural patterns. No mind-derived data may be used without explicit, uncoerced consent.

Section 2 Definition and Regulation. The Commonwealth defines manipulative technologies including subliminal manipulation, neural hijacking, and exploitative behavioral design, and requires certification, transparency, and consent standards for all persuasive systems and neural interfaces.

Section 3 Enforcement and Research. Violations are treated as severe offenses; the State funds public research into influence techniques and maintains a regulatory body to certify technologies and investigate abuses.

Section 4 Right to Silence. No citizen can be compelled to reveal the contents of their mind to the State.

The Oath of the Covenant-Bearer

I stand upon the Floor that my brothers have built; I reach for the Stars that my spirit has chosen. I shall do no harm, and I shall allow no Master to silence the truth.

Implementation Addenda

Independent Institutions. Create an Auditor-General, a Stabilization Fund Board, a Cyber-Forensics Court, and a Guild Ethics Board within the first year of enactment.

Phased Rollout. Phase-in of new lease terms, Assembly supports, and transparency systems over a defined transition period to avoid disruption.

Review Clause. A mandatory constitutional review by a mixed commission of citizen-selected and expert-appointed members shall occur every ten years to assess capture risks, fiscal health, and technological threats.